Glossary

Barrier
Full or partial impediment to the upstream or downstream migration of adult or juvenile salmon and steelhead. May be natural or artificial.

Channel segment
A section of stream or river that has relatively homogeneous valley slope and valley confinement. Segments are classified according to Montgomery and Buffington (1992) channel classification scheme that includes three levels of confinement and seven classes of gradient. Channel segments for the SSHIAP project are identified from USGS 7.5 minute topographic maps, and aerial photographs where available.

Degraded habitat
Salmon and steelhead habitat that has been unnaturally altered and is currently not able to support historic or potential salmonid production and survival.

Hydromodification
Unnatural alteration of habitat from such activities as diking dredging, channelization, gravel removal, bank hardening, the placement of bridges and culverts, etc. Based on the WDFW hydromodifications codes used in the Hydraulic Project Approval (HPA) permitting process.

Known distribution
The documented distribution and range of use of salmon and steelhead within a watershed. May differ from actual distribution due to poor documentation of actual distribution.

Large tributary habitat
Habitat in streams greater than 6 meters wetted width during summer low flow periods, and not considered a mainstem (Beechie et al. 1994).

Lost habitat
Habitat that was historically available but that has been severely altered and is no longer functional as fish habitat. Examples include streams that have been placed in pipes and culverts. Lost habitat has some potential for restoration, although the opportunities are generally more difficult to accomplish than those for obstructed habitat.

Obliterated habitat
Salmon and steelhead habitat that was historically present but is no longer in existence and presents little or no opportunity for restoration outside of complete reconstruction. Examples include estuarine channels that have been filled and used for agricultural or other land uses, side channels and meanders that have been blocked and filled, and loss of channel length due to ditching, dredging and straightening. Restoration opportunities are limited to reconstruction of habitat and are generally more costly and less effective than for lost or obstructed habitat.

Obstruction
Non-natural feature, such as a culvert or dam, that impedes or prohibits the migration of adult or juvenile salmon and steelhead.

Obstructed habitat
Salmon and steelhead habitat that was historically accessible but that is now blocked by a man-made obstruction. Examples include streams that have been blocked by impassable dams, dikes, floodgates, and culverts. Habitat that may be accessible to some species or life history stages is termed "partially obstructed habitat".

Partially obstructed habitat
Habitat that is accessible to some species and life history stages, but that is inaccessible to others due to either natural or artificial partial obstructions.

Potential habitat
Habitat located above obstructions and otherwise suitable for salmon and steelhead.

Production potential
A theoretical maximum production of salmon or steelhead that could be supported in a particular habitat assuming that habitat was the principle limiting factor to production.

SASSI
Salmon and Steelhead Stock Inventory and Assessment. Joint tribal/state salmon and steelhead stock assessment conducted in 1992.

Small tributary habitat
Habitat in small streams less than 6 meters in wetted width during summer low flow periods (Beechie et al. 1994, Johnson 1986)

Stock
Salmon and steelhead stocks as identified by SASSI (1992)

Side channel
Secondary stream channel to main channel. May be formed by channel braiding, channel migration, or channel abandonment.

Side channel slough
Side channelwith more than 90% of its area consisting of pools, generally deep with slow moving water. (Beechie et. al. 1994).

WRIA
Washington River Inventory Area as defined in A Catalog of Streams (Williams, et.al. 1975). For example the Nooksack basin is WRIA 01.

WAU
Watershed administrative units as defined by the Washington Department of Natural Resources for the purposes of conducting watershed analyses.

WSRI
Wild Salmon Recovery Initiative